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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Mixson, J.A. : Examiner:
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned : Art Unit:
Filed: Concurrently Herewith : Docket No.: 5627.6
For: **Carrier nucleic acids complexes** :
containing nucleic acids encoding :
anti-angiogenic peptides and :
their use in gene therapy :

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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BY: Jean M. Marshall
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-referenced application before action as follows:

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph spanning pages 18-19 with:

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The plasmid vector may contain multiple promoters to enhance expression efficiency. Moreover, a plasmid vector may include IRES sequence (internal ribosome entry site) between different DNA coding sequences, allowing for the translation of more than one peptide from the same transcript. Coding sequences can be associated with secretory sequences in the vector to enhance expression levels. In another embodiment of the invention, the vector may comprise an extrachromosomal replicating vector. See, e.g. Calos, TIG 12:463 (1996). In a further embodiment, RNA carries the coding sequence of antiangiogenic genes. These and other techniques to optimize expression are known to those in the art.

A marked up version of the amended paragraph is found attached at APPENDIX 1, with additions underlined and deleted text in brackets.